

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: Michael B. Stewart
Empire Farms
P.O. Box 40
Empire, Nevada 89405

Permit Number: NEV2000517

General: The permittee proposes to receive dewatered screened domestic septage and grease trap material from Inviro-Tec of Lincoln, California and use the domestic septage and grease trap material for the following purposes: 1. Land apply the domestic septage and grease trap material to improve the growing properties of soil to grow non-food crops; 2. Compost the domestic septage and grease trap material to "Exceptional Quality Compost" and sell the compost for landscape use; 3. Compost the domestic septage and grease trap material to "Class B" compost and use it on the permittee's own farm to grow non-food crops. Land application and composting will be performed on the Bailey Unit of Orient Farms, north of Gerlach, Nevada.

Receiving Water Characteristics: The groundwater is approximately 200 feet below the surface of the land and is of good quality. The only use of ground water in the land application and composting area is farm crop irrigation.

Description of the Location of the Discharge: Land application and composting will be conducted on the Bailey Unit of Orient Farms, north of Gerlach Nevada. The Bailey Unit is in Pershing County and is four miles from the closest public gravel road.

Characteristics: The domestic septage and grease trap material received from Inviro-Tec will be screened through a one half inch screen before being shipped to Orient Farms. The septage will be certified as being 100% from domestic septic tanks.

Flow: The application rate for direct land application and for "Class B" compost is set based on the nitrogen uptake of the crops being planted.

Procedures for Public Comment:

The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to the groundwater of the State of Nevada subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Reno Gazette Journal** and the **Lovelock Review-Miner** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing up to March 15, 2001. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons.

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination

The Division has made the tentative determination to issue the proposed permit.

Proposed Effluent Limitations, Schedule of Compliance and Special Conditions

The permittee shall meet all of the requirements of 40 CFR Part 503 , Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge. Each use, direct land application, class B compost and exceptional quality compost has different requirements under 40 CFR part 503.

Rationale for Permit Requirements

Monitoring is required to protect the public from pathogens that may be in the septage and to protect the ground water from being degraded from the nitrogen in the dewatered domestic septage.

by: Bill Coughlin, P.E.